

*Kees O'Neill, James, Jr.  
Where the  
Spies Are*



# Spies Go Ape

## 'Bond' Takeoffs Are Becoming a Mite Boring

By JAMES O'NEILL Jr.

There seems to be no end in sight as the procession of spy movies rolls on and on and on.

I'm just a trifle sick of seeing the same thing over and over again, tho each spy-type comedy has something in it to recommend it to an audience, even if the critics, who see them ALL, find the repetition a mite boring.

This week's spy epic is titled "Where the Spies Are," and it employs the services of David Niven as the head spy, or whatever you wish to call him. The picture is current at the Cinema.

### GIRL

Since one of the cardinal rules of making a spy movie is to have a pre-heated, highly flammable, and always available girl lurking in the draperies, the producers have thoughtfully provided Francoise Dorleac, a French starlet who may well be groomed into stardom as she pays strict attention to her betters in the acting trade.

In the screenplay by Wolf Mankowitz and director pro-

ducer Val Guest, Mr. Niven is cast as a country doctor with a passion for old Cord autos and none for the British Secret Service, who finally press him into service to discover the whereabouts of a British spy who has suddenly turned up missing, in Beirut, of all places to drop out of sight.

Jason Love, dragooned by agents, is sent first to Rome, where he muddles thru the first of a series of misadventures, meeting Mlle. Dorleac at the airport where she immediately blows up the plane in which Mr. Love was to have been riding.

### ALL HELL

Spies must be imperturbable, and Mr. Love, with only a fraction of normal worry for one's skin, heads for Beirut "where the spies are." I guess they're in Beirut, because all hell busts loose when Mr. Love blunders again and again into situations at once incredible and most of them quite funny.

"Where the Spies Are," in sum, is simply another amusing effort to ape James Bond, and from where I sit the only film to approach the invincible Bond is "Our Man Flint," who makes Disneyland look like a bargain basement.